



**Testimony to the Appropriations and Human Services Committees
Regarding
Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver Application for Medicaid
Low-Income Adult (LIA) Coverage**

July 24, 2012

**Submitted by Mag Morelli
President of LeadingAge Connecticut**

LeadingAge Connecticut is a membership organization representing over 130 not-for-profit and mission-driven provider organizations serving older adults across the continuum of care including nursing homes, residential care homes, housing for the elderly, continuing care retirement communities, adult day centers, home care and assisted living agencies. LeadingAge Connecticut was formerly named the Connecticut Association of Not-for-profit Providers for the Aging (CANPFA).

Good morning Senator Harp, Senator Musto, Representative Walker, Representative Tercyak and members of the Appropriations and Human Services Committees. Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the not-for profit aging services providers in Connecticut.

On July 5, 2012, LeadingAge Connecticut submitted comments to the Department of Social Services on the proposed Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver Application. The focus of our comments was the specific proposal to limit coverage for nursing facilities under the Low-Income Adult (LIA) demonstration to 90 days per admission and to encourage individuals in need of longer-term nursing facility stays to apply for Medicaid coverage under other eligibility groups that qualify for long-term care. We raised several questions and concerns regarding the transitional time period that would occur once the initial 90 days of nursing facility coverage were exhausted. A copy of our comments is reprinted at the end of this testimony.

We are pleased to have been notified since submitting our comments that DSS has recognized the need for further evaluation of the proposed 90-day nursing facility benefit limitation for LIA enrollees. This evaluation will be conducted before any final decision will be made to implement this benefit change. We appreciate the recognition of our concerns and have offered to work with the state in their evaluation of the proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

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